

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension or Revocation)
)
of the Educator Certificate of)
)
Gregory Lee Hancox)
)
Certificate 161927)

**CONSENT ORDER OF
PUBLIC REPRIMAND**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on February 8, 2006. On August 26, 2005, the State Department of Education (Department) sent notice of the possible suspension of Gregory Lee Hancox's educator certificate by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested. Mr. Hancox requested a hearing, but subsequently agreed to waive his right to a hearing and to accept a public reprimand, to be issued contingent upon Mr. Hancox's participation in and successful completion of appropriate mental health counseling, as determined by a licensed mental health care professional. After considering the evidence presented by the Department, the State Board voted to issue a public reprimand to Mr. Hancox.

Gregory L.
Hancox

Initial here

Date

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Hancox holds a valid South Carolina certificate and has over twenty-two years of teaching experience. During the 2005-2006 school year, Mr. Hancox was employed as a math teacher at West Ashley Middle School in the Charleston County School District. Mr. Hancox resigned from his employment on February 18, 2005, following an investigation into allegations that Mr. Hancox engaged in inappropriate conduct toward and in the presence of students.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. Just cause includes unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The Board finds that the evidence presented supports its conclusion that just cause exists for the issuance of a public reprimand to Mr. Hancox for unprofessional conduct. Accordingly, the Board issues this Consent Order of Public Reprimand, with the understanding that Mr. Hancox has initiated and agrees to continue mental health counseling for the period of time determined by his licensed counselor. This Consent Order of Public Reprimand shall be reported to all school districts in South Carolina and maintained as a public record in the Office of General Counsel.

South Carolina State Board of Education

/S/ Joe Isaac
Joe Isaac, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

February 8, 2006

I, Gregory Lee Hancox, S.C. Educator Certificate 161927, do hereby agree to this Order of Public Reprimand, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented as signed to the State Board of Education on February 8, 2006.

/S/ Gregory L. Hancox
Gregory L. Hancox

1/14/06
Date